Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Indo-French Working Groups on Mineral Exploration and Development was set up under the aegis of the Indo-French Joint Committee on Economic and Technical Co-operation in 1986, to enhance the capabilities of the Indian Organisations in the field of Geology and mining and also to obtain state-of-the-art technology and equipment. French bilateral assistance aggregating around 204—23 million FF has been given through 21 projects under the Indo-French Financial Protocol.

Transferring Bauxite Mines to BALCO

1473. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shamu-Behu, the two bauxite mines in Koraput district in Orissa, have been given to BALCO just two days before BALCO handedover to Stirelite Company; and

(b) what is the total deposit of bauxite in the above mines and the approximate cost, which can be exploited from these mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAY SING RAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As reported by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), a subordinate organization under the Ministry of Mines, the geological reserves of Sasu Bahumali deposit (which is one deposit) and adjoining Pasangmali deposit are estimated as 81 million tonnes with an average grade of A1203 about 41.95 percent and Si02 about 2.6 percent.

Pending railway projects

1474. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) The number and details of Railway projects pending due to lack of funds;